Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It is the answer.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—Then my supplementary question is whether any action has been taken by the Chief Medical Officer for the purchase of these articles from the Charity Fund?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I did not ask for any explanation from him.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—May I know why?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It is because there was no definite rule laid down how the Charity Fund is to be utilised.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—But there was an understanding that it should be used only for charitable purposes.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—There was no understanding.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—May I know whether the money was collected without any such understanding—to use it for charitable purposes only?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—There is no understanding to that effect. The only thing was that the fund should be used for the benefit of the poor, and all these expenses can be included under that head 'Charity' in the absence of any definite rules on the subject.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—What is the use of asking supplementary questions if such answers are given?

Nurses' Quarters.

125. Mr. K. J. Antony.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

1. whether the Civil Surgeon, Trichur, was given sanction, on his own representation, to rent a house to be used as residential quarters for the nursing sisters doing duty in the Civil Hospital, Trichur;

2. whether a house was rented for the purpose; and if so, at what rent and when was the house rented;

3. did the sisters change their residence to this rented building from the date the building was rented; if not, when did they begin to reside there and what was the reason for not making use of the house as their place of residence from the time the house was rented by the Civil Surgeon;

4. did the Civil Surgeon report to the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer about the non-occupying of the house by the sisters as the residential quarters; and if so, when was the first report received;

5. who is responsible to have seen that the rented house was properly utilised for the purpose it was rented or in the alternative to have seen that renting was stopped forthwith;

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6. whether any action was taken against the officer concerned;

7. whether the Civil Surgeon made himself sure that the sisters really required a place of residence so near the hospital and whether he was requested by the sisters to provide them with free quarters;

8. if the representation to the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer was made by the Civil Surgeon at the instance and on the request of the sisters, what was the justification for the sisters not to occupy the rented place as their residential quarters from the time it was rented;

9. whether any explanation has been taken from the Civil Surgeon for not seeing that the house was properly made use of; and if so, will the Government kindly lay the explanations on the Table?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—1. Yes.

2. Yes. At Rs. 15 per mensem from 1st Chingam 1102.

3. The sisters changed their residence into the rented building on 26th March 1929, 13th Meenam 1104. Before that they occupied it during mid-day but did not live there for want of convenience.

4. Yes.

On 31st January 1929/18th Makaram 1104.

5. The Civil Surgeon, Trichur.

6. Yes.

7. Yes.

8. There were no chapel and other necessary conveniences for permanent residence.

9. Yes. Necessary action has already been taken in the matter and, therefore, Government do not think it necessary to place any of the papers on the Table.

Cashing a bill towards the subsistence allowance of a nursing sister who was really not on duty.

126. Mr. K. J. Antony.— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

1. whether a bill towards the full subsistence allowance of one sister, Elizabeth (Nursing Sister, Trichur Civil Hospital), was drawn and cashed for the month of Dhanu 1104;

2. during this month, was she on leave for some time and if so what was the reason for billing allowance to her for the full one month;

3. what did the Civil Surgeon do with the money drawn in the name of the absentee;

4. for the serious irregularity on the part of the Civil Surgeon what action, if any, has been instituted against him;

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